

#WIHUNT2015 - Where will the hunt take you?

What's new for 2015?

- Zone, DMU and land type-specific antlerless permits to help more closely manage deer populations on each land type with the hope of enhancing the hunting experience on public land.
- E-registration for everyone will provide fast, easy and convenient method for hunters to register their harvest - in-person options remain available continue the traditions associated with in-person registration stations. Find a registration station near you: visit dnr.wi.gov, keywords "[registration stations](#)."

General forecast and statewide outlook:

- This year, County Deer Advisory Councils recommended population objectives (increase, decrease or maintain) for their respective counties, these will help manage each county's deer herd on a more local scale with key input from the public.
- In the Farmland Zones, most CDACs voted to maintain the deer herd. However, high deer populations led to many CDACs recommending moderate to high antlerless quotas and bonus antlerless permits – this will give hunters opportunities to harvest antlerless deer.
- In the Forest Zones, most CDACs voted to increase the herd. Many Forest Zone DMUs will remain closed to antlerless deer hunting, but in 2015 some Forest Zone counties bordering the Central Farmland Zone are offering a limited number of bonus antlerless permits in recognition of higher deer numbers in these areas.
- To view this year's Fall Hunting and Trapping Forecast, visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword "[forecast](#)."

Season structure:

- In 2015, all zones and DMUs across the state will offer the same standard season framework:
 - Archery and crossbow seasons→ Sept. 12 to Jan. 3 (Jan. 31 in all Metro Subunits).
 - Youth gun deer hunt→ Oct. 10 – 11.
 - Hunt for people with disabilities→ Oct. 3 – Oct. 11 (sponsored properties only)
 - 9-day gun deer season→ Nov. 21 – 29 (Dec. 9 in all Metro Subunits).
 - Muzzleloader-only season→ Nov. 30 – Dec. 9.
 - December 4-day antlerless-only hunt→ Dec. 10 – 13.
- The 4-day December antlerless-only hunt will occur in all zones and DMUs across the state. Only antlerless deer can be harvested (by permit) using a bow, crossbow or firearm during this hunt.

- The antlerless-only Holiday Hunt will not be offered in 2015.
- Class A and C disabled permit holders, youth under age 17 and qualified active military personnel may tag an antlerless deer in buck-only units.
- Albino and all-white deer are protected across the state, including CWD-affected areas, and cannot be harvested.

Licenses:

- Archer or crossbow license and gun deer license→includes one statewide buck tag and one Farmland Zone antlerless deer carcass tag.
 - Hunters must specify the county DMU and land type (public access or private) for this antlerless tag.
- [Conservation Patron license](#)→includes one statewide gun buck tag, one statewide bow buck tag, and two Farmland Zone-specific antlerless tags. The Conservation Patron license allows hunting with a firearm, bow or crossbow.
 - Hunters must specify a DMU and land type (public access or private) for each Farmland Zone-specific antlerless tag.
- Junior archer or crossbow license and junior gun deer license→includes one statewide buck tag and one statewide antlerless deer carcass tag.
- Hunters who wish to hunt with a crossbow must purchase a crossbow license or the bow/crossbow upgrade in order to hunt with a bow and crossbow.
 - Bow/crossbow upgrade→purchase a bow or crossbow license and get the other at a reduced price (\$3). This upgrade allows hunting with a bow and a crossbow, but does not include an extra set of tags.

Bonus antlerless permits:

- At the time of purchase, hunters are asked to specify the zone, unit and land type (public or private) for the bonus antlerless permit.
- Bonus antlerless permits will be sold at a rate of one per hunter per day where available. Bonus antlerless permits will be sold until no longer available or until the season closes.
- Bonus antlerless permits can be filled with any legal weapon during the proper open season.
- Each bonus antlerless permit costs \$12 for residents, \$20 for non-residents and \$5 for youth hunters.
- Bonus buck authorization has been discontinued - hunters may not use any bonus buck stickers from previous years to tag a buck in 2015.

Electronic registration:

- In 2015, all hunters will use electronic registration methods to register their harvests.
 - Hunters will register by phone or Internet (through a computer or mobile device).
 - Some in-person registration stations will also provide e-registration services to hunters. A list of participating in-person stations is available at dnr.wi.gov, keyword "[registration stations](#)."
 - All hunters must write the 10-character confirmation number, received during the e-registration process, on the carcass tag attached to the deer to complete registration.
 - Hunters must register their deer by 5 p.m. the day after shooting and tagging the deer.
 - Deer must be registered before leaving the DMU of kill or an adjacent unit.
 - Deer must be registered before they can be transferred into another person's possession.
- E-registration will provide additional flexibility to hunters and more timely access to data.

Chronic wasting disease management:

- This year, with the full implementation of electronic registration, the DNR surveillance goal is to test at least 4,000 deer for CWD.
 - Free CWD sampling at participating DNR sampling stations will be available to hunters on a voluntary basis.
- In 2015, CWD was detected on a captive deer farm in Eau Claire County. As a result, a baiting and feeding ban is now in place for all counties within 10 miles of the detection site (Eau Claire, Jackson and Clark counties).
- As of 2014, CWD has been detected in wild deer in 18 counties in Wisconsin.